

---

BOARD OF COMMISSIONER'S OFFICE  
NEWS RELEASE



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

November 17, 2016

For additional information contact:

Lisa LaPlante at (616) 632-7567 or [Lisa.LaPlante@kentcountymi.gov](mailto:Lisa.LaPlante@kentcountymi.gov)

**Kent County Board of Commissioners  
Approve 2017 Budget**

**GRAND RAPIDS** – The Kent County Board of Commissioners unanimously passed the 2017 annual budget this morning.

The General Fund budget is just over \$166.8 million, a slight increase of 1.7 percent from the previous year. The budget is projected at \$342.4 million and includes more than \$5.3 million for capital improvements. "We continue to provide mandated services in an efficient and effective manner while maintaining a balanced budget," said Jim Saalfeld, Kent County Board of Commissioners' Chair. "This Board of Commissioners and the County Administration have been prudent about spending while addressing the needs of our County. I am pleased to report that we are extremely well-positioned moving forward."

The budget calls for the same operating millage rate for 2017 (4.2803) that has been levied since 2004. This is the final County budget that Daryl Delabbio prepared as County Administrator/Controller, as he is scheduled to retire in June 2017. "I am extremely proud that the County has not increased the operating millage rate in over a decade," said Delabbio. "Every department continues to be good stewards of County funds and exercises caution with expenditures. Having seen this County through good times and through tough times, I appreciate knowing that we are a model for fiscal responsibility."

The General Fund budget is structurally balanced, where planned expenditures are supported by current revenues and there is no requirement to utilize the County's fund balance. In addition, the budget provides funding to ensure that County facilities and equipment are properly maintained and maintains existing services and programs while enhancing public safety.

###